

# AABI NEWS RELEASE

Aviation Accreditation Board International 3410 Skyway Drive Auburn, AL 36830

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## AABI ADVANCES AVIATION EDUCATION STANDARDS WORLDWIDE WITH 1<sup>st</sup> INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS

**Auburn, Alabama, April 17, 2007** – At its meeting held in Melbourne, Florida, February 21, 2007, the Aviation Accreditation Board International's (AABI, formerly CAA) Board of Trustees, responding to a recommendation from its Accreditation Committee, accredited the first international programs at **Korea Aerospace University and Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology**.

Serving South Korea and the greater Pacific region as the center of excellence in aviation education for more than fifty years, the Korea Aerospace University (KAU, formerly Hankuk Aviation University) was created to aid industrial development by training and providing professional employees to the air transportation industry. Now boasting a full-time enrollment of more than 4,000 students, KAU continues its tradition of distinction through successful application of accreditation. The B.S. Aviation Business Administration, B.S. Air Transportation Systems, B.S. Air Traffic Management, B.S. Aeronautical Science and Flight Operations programs were accredited for a period of five years.

As the first college in Ontario, Canada, to offer bachelor degree studies, Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology in Toronto continues to transform the education landscape of the province. The degree programs were created specifically to educate students for high growth industries, and the Bachelor of Applied Technology (flight program) is no exception. The program is ideally positioned to meet the future requirements of the Canadian and global aerospace industry by graduating technically competent future managers and leaders. "The [accreditation] visit provided a valuable opportunity for sharing of information and ideas; it is indeed a powerful experience to be assessed by your peers. The academic integrity of our applied degree offerings is critical to us, and we therefore value AABI's acknowledgement of the quality of the program," said Dr. Rick Miner, president of Seneca College.

Korea Aerospace University and Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology are the first international institutions to submit its programs to peer and industry review. AABI is honored and privileged that KAU and Seneca will serve as a benchmark for future international accreditation. "This milestone culminates a three-year effort in furthering AABI's commitment to its mission to advance quality aviation education worldwide through accreditation and leadership," expressed Gary Kiteley.

"We welcome these two additions to our accredited program roster," added AABI President Peter Morton, "and are grateful for the confidence KAU and Seneca have placed in AABI through membership and attainment of AABI-accreditation."

To achieve accreditation, aviation programs must satisfy the expectations of a wide range of quality standards relating to strategic management of resources, interactions of faculty and students in the educational process and achievement of learning goals in degree programs. During the accreditation process, the programs are visited and evaluated by academic and industry representatives with detailed knowledge of aviation education, applying accreditation standards that are widely accepted in the educational community.

The Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI) is a not-for-profit organization consisting of educational institutions, corporations, practitioners, trade organizations and members of the public-at-large. AABI is officially recognized as a specialized accrediting body by the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), which lists AABI in the 2005 Almanac of External Quality Review. Headquartered in Auburn, Alabama, USA, AABI has its international office in Montreal, Canada, near the seat of such international aviation organizations as the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

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